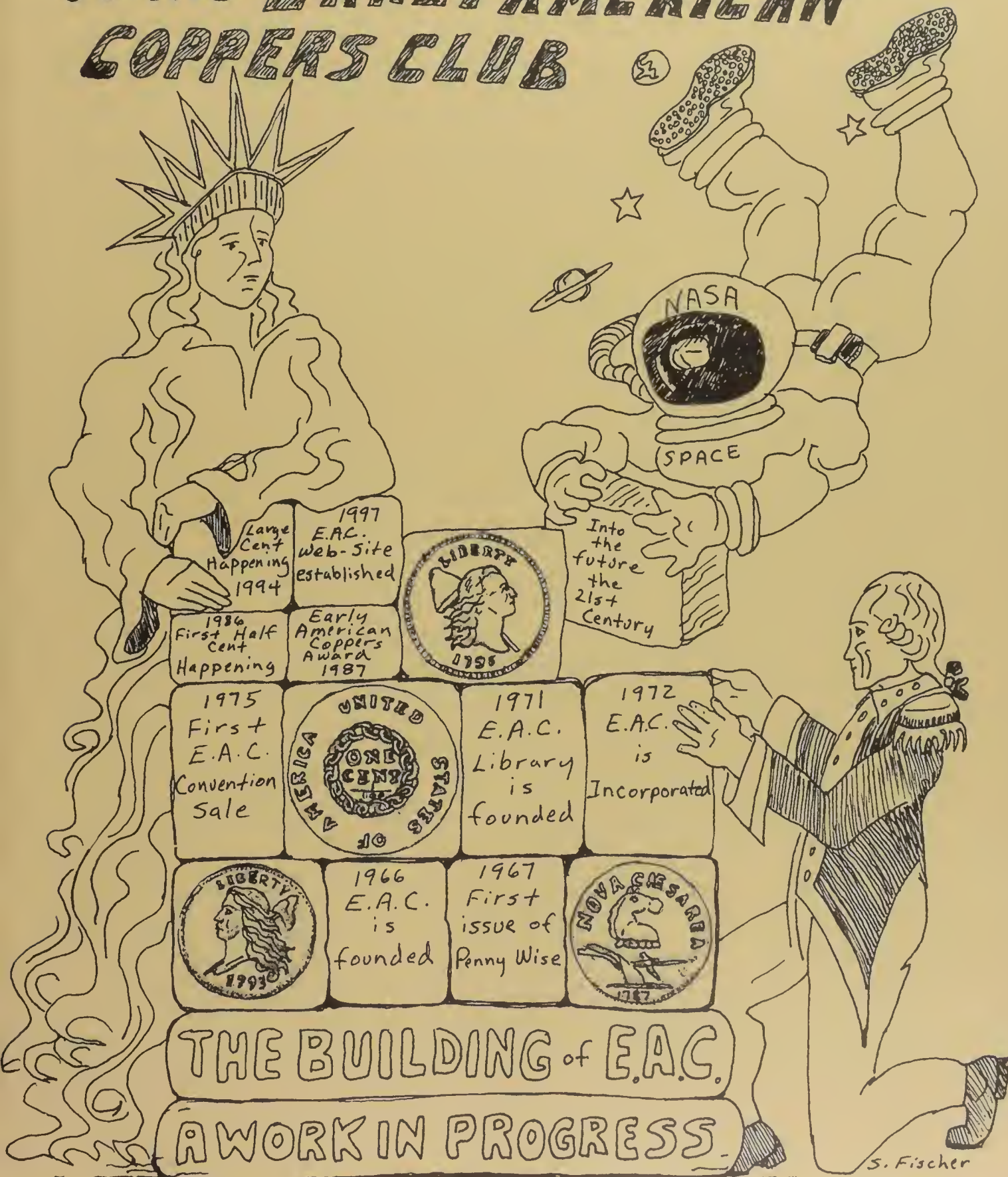


HISTORY of the EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS CLUB



History of the Early American Coppers Club 1966-1997

Pete Smith: EAC Historian

The Early American Coppers Club, Inc. traces its origins to an ad placed by Herbert A. Silberman in the November 9, 1966, issue of *Coin World*. After listing duplicates for sale, the ad concluded:

“If you collect Large Cents, please write. We are trying to start a mail club to trade and discuss this series.”

As the result of the *Coin World* ad, Silberman was soon corresponding with collectors in 11 states. Letters passed from member to member with comments added along the way.

One year later, on November 1, 1967, the Early American Coppers Club reached the level of 93 charter members. The number of charter members commemorated the first cents struck in 1793. Dr. William H. Sheldon received charter membership number 1.

Fifty charter members dropped out in the first five years including several who did not respond to the first dues imposed in 1968. Active members who joined later could claim abandoned numbers if they purchased the corresponding numbered membership token.

Bill Parks, printer of the first 113 issues of *Penny-Wise* and Margaret Beeler, the original “Mama Mimeo” were honored with life memberships in 1986. Parks died in 1995 and Beeler resigned in 1995.

Herb Silberman, founder and first president of EAC and Warren Lapp, editor of the first 113 issues of *Penny-Wise*, were honored with life memberships in 1992. Lapp died in 1993.

Member number 4539 joined by mid-1997. About a third of all who have been EAC members are still active in 1997. Charter members still active include #4 Robinson S. Brown, Jr., #11 Denis W. Loring, #12 J. Robert Parsons, #13 Herbert A. Silberman, #17 Charles Skiendzielewski, #19 Gordon J. Wrubel, #35 George Ramont, #48 Charles A. Blood, #50 Daniel T. Borda, #54 Raymond H. Williamson, #56 R. W. Fellows, #60 R. E. Naftzger, Jr., #68 Darwin B. Palmer, Jr., #74 John Ward, Jr., #78 Robert S. Carter, #79 C. Douglas Smith and #85 William E. Hopkins. Others now in their 30th year of membership include #101 Jules Reiver, #105 John D. Wright, #109 Rod Burrell and #111 Del Bland.

The club was originally focused on the U.S. large cents produced between 1793 and 1857. The focus expanded to include half cents and colonial copper coins. At the annual meeting held May 3, 1981, EAC voted to expand its scope to include Hard Times Tokens.

The first issue of the club journal, *Penny-Wise*, was published September 15, 1967. Dr. Warren A. Lapp of Brooklyn, NY, was editor and publisher. William J. Parks of Orlando, Florida, was printer and distributor. At this time EAC had 39 members and 75 copies of the first issue were printed. Prospective members received copies of the first issue until the supply ran out.

Dr. Lapp described the beginning, “I proposed to Herb that Bill Parks and I be allowed to start publishing a journal which would be a forum for the club members and which would be free to members. I volunteered to put together the first several issues, Bill would print them on his

mimeograph machine and I would pay for the cost of printing and mailing. Herb approved the venture and that was the start of *P-W*. We considered various names for the publication, most of them starting with Penny - e.g. Penny Royal, Pennyworth, Penny Ante, etc. The name *Penny-Wise* was suggested by Bill Parks. We liked it because its initials duplicated *Penny Whimsy*. Herb saw and approved each issue of *P-W* before it was printed and mailed out."

Voluntary contributions supported the first three issues of *P-W*. For 1968, the price of a subscription and membership in EAC was set at \$10.

Chuck Funk, who produced indexes for the first 20 years, reported that through the end of Volume VIII (1974), 45 issues of *Penny-Wise* had been published totaling 1801 pages.

On January 15, 1984, the 100th consecutive issue of *Penny-Wise* was published under the direction of Warren A. Lapp. Bill Parks announced that we had added a member from Montana and we were now mailing to members in all 50 states.

In 1984 Jan Valentine arranged for the first four volumes of *Penny-Wise* to be reprinted. Price was \$25 for the 250 copies issued.

The November 15, 1986, issue of *P-W* included a 12 page supplement, "The History of the Early American Coppers Club." The 25th anniversary issue and 150th consecutive issue of *Penny-Wise* was published May 15, 1992. Since three issues were published in 1967 (dated 9-15, 11-1 and 12-1) in a date span now covered by two issues (9-15 and 11-15), anniversary dates and issue numbers are out-of-sync by one. September 15, 1997, marks the 30th anniversary of the first issue of *P-W* and consecutive issue #182.

In 1970 EAC became a club member of the American Numismatic Association with membership number C-64199. EAC was officially incorporated in 1972 in the State of New York as Early American Coppers, Inc. Text of papers of incorporation were published in the March 15, 1972, issue of *P-W*. At the annual meeting Sunday, March 7, 1976, the membership voted to accept the by-laws as proposed and amended. On April 30, 1977, EAC received tax-exempt status under section 501(c) (3) of the IRS code. The effective date was extended back to June 4, 1976, when the application was filed.

Charter member #63 described his occupation as president of an Arizona university that bore his name. The university name was unfamiliar and aroused curiosity among the EAC officers. President Silberman contacted a sheriff in Phoenix who looked into the background of this member. It turned out he was a boy of thirteen who owned one well-worn large cent. He was dropped from membership in EAC.

(July 15, 1970) In this issue of *Penny-Wise* the club conducted its EAC Mail Bid Sale No. 1. Denis Loring cataloged the sale of 70 lots. There were 12 consignors and 18 bidders. Bids were received for 36 of the lots.

Various awards have been given to outstanding club members. The "Man of the Year" award was presented in 1971 and 1972. In 1987 the Early American Coppers Award was initiated for contributions in copper literature. The award committee was replaced in 1993 and the new committee renamed the award as the EAC Literary Award. The Editor's Award was originally intended to recognize the best contribution to *Penny-Wise* by a first-year member. There were inadequate contributions to justify the award so it was modified to cover all contributors.

The first EAC membership token was issued May 1, 1968. Metal Arts Company of Rochester, New York, struck 293 serially numbered pieces. The engraver was James Nordquist. His initials "J. N." appear on the truncation of the bust. Piece number 293 was donated to the American Numismatic Society. Later pieces 285 and 286 were donated to the American Numismatic Association.

In commemoration of our 15th anniversary in 1982, 650 EAC medallions were produced. Issue price was \$5.50. The medallion was produced by EAC member G. Lee Kuntz of Masterpiece Medallions. The design is based on the 1798 S-187 large cent with two prominent obverse die breaks. In 1992, A 25th Anniversary Medallion was struck in copper for general sale to members. A special edition in silver sold 130 copies. A medallion was struck in 1997 to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of EAC. The 500 pieces in copper were offered at \$6 and 100 pieces in silver at \$21.

Emerging technologies have changed the way EAC members communicate. In 1993 small groups began to meet on CompuServe. Jon Lusk was authorized in 1993 to convert *Penny-Wise* to CD-ROM format for sale to members. It was offered for sale in 1994 and delivered in September. In the May 15, 1996, issue of *P-W*, Mark Switzer offered to compile an Internet address directory. Addresses are used for private messages. In addition, Switzer sends a weekly message to members. In 1997 the group passed 100 members and was recognized as Region 8 for EAC. Jon Lusk was appointed Web-Master and authorized to create an EAC Web-page. It first appeared in June 1997 at www.eacs.org.

The Large Cent Condition Census Committee was formed in 1993 to review discoveries for inclusion in the Condition Census and to resolve disputes. Committee members included Del Bland, Bob Grellman, Denis Loring, Tom Reynolds, Jack Robinson, and Chris Victor-McCawley.

Traditions

The Early American Coppers Club has issued its newsletter *Penny-Wise* regularly since September 15, 1967. Publication dates for six issues a year are January 15, March 15, May 15, July 15, September 15, and November 15. A row of thirteen stars separates articles.

Public meetings of the club begin with introductions as each person gives their name, home city and area of collecting interests.

National meetings have grown from an evening dinner to a three-and-a-half day convention. The pattern in recent years includes a reception on Thursday evening, Educational Forum on Friday evening, educational seminars on Saturday, EAC Sale on Saturday evening and general business meeting Sunday morning. A public bourse is open Friday through Sunday.

In recent years, donations from members support a reception on Thursday night as part of the convention. There is no formal program. It is a time to meet old friends and for new members to establish those friendships.

An evening of 'black velvet and white gloves' describes the Half Cent Happening held on Thursday evenings during national conventions. Coins for inclusion in the Happening are announced in advance. Members are encouraged to bring examples of designated varieties. Each variety is displayed on a table carefully watched by a volunteer monitor. Members attending are encouraged to examine the coins and assign an order of preference for fine quality.

The Large Cent Happening, added in 1994, and Colonial Happening, added in 1995, are patterned after the highly successful Half Cent Happening. An Educational Forum is presented as the Friday evening program at national conventions. Non-competitive exhibits offer members an opportunity to show important items from their collections.

EAC conducts a private sale of consigned coppers in conjunction with the annual EAC convention. This simplifies the need to comply with local ordinances related to public auctions. Members send coins to the cataloguer prior to the sale and a catalog is produced for distributed to all members. A space on the bourse floor is reserved for viewing sale lots. Although mail bids are accepted and encouraged, most lots are sold to bidders who attend. The commission rate charged is a sliding scale based on total proceeds of the sale. Proceeds from the sale defray costs of the annual convention and help fund *P-W*.

The sale catalogs feature cover art related to the host city. Since 1984 the cover design has been by Steve Fischer.

EAC Sales include occasional lots offered for entertainment and refreshment. These frequently include a six-pack of some local beer. Proceeds go to the club. *Penny-Wise* reported on the first counterfeit beer lot in EAC history sold at 10:05 PM on April 27, 1991. This was six Bud Lights in a "Sam Adams" carton.

After the 1970 ANA convention, Denis Loring wrote a brief article "One Day at ANA" for *P-W*. It was only one page and covered little more than one purchase, a new variety, 1796 NC-6. In 1971 Loring submitted a slightly longer report of the ANA convention and in 1972 a day-by-day account of the convention was submitted by John D. Wright. In 1973, both Loring and Wright wrote daily reports. Denis called his report "D.L.'s Diary" and it has been called that ever since. Loring's diary is so well known and popular that it is now copied, sometimes with acknowledgment, by other authors in other publications.

Mike Packard acquires low-grade cents and stamps them with the year and locale of the convention, following a tradition established by Tom Wolf. These are given as souvenirs or pocket pieces. Packard thinks of them as "bangers."

In the early days of EAC, a committee was formed to update and publish references on half cents and large cents. Committee members have changed and responsibilities have shifted. It is tradition that progress toward completion of these references is reported at EAC meetings. It is also tradition that announced completion dates pass, are revised and pass again.

Every member is entitled to an opinion about what “EAC grading” represents. Traditional EAC grading is considered “technical” grading based on an evaluation of wear and deduction of points for problems such as corrosion, pitting, cuts, dings, prior cleaning or recoloring. EAC grading is in constant conflict with “market” grading that attempts to rank coins based on relative value.

Dr. Sheldon, writing in *Penny-Whimsy*, credits Dr. George French with the invention of “old cent whist.” In its simplest form, two collectors compare collections and score one point for having a variety and a second point for having a nicer piece than the competitor. More complex scoring may be used for games with several competitors. Whist is a popular activity when small groups of collectors gather.

National Meetings and Conventions

National meetings and conventions provide the opportunity for club members to gather. Friendships are made and renewed. Knowledge and wisdom may be passed from the more experienced member to the novice. New discoveries and new ideas are shared. Members return home with memories only briefly covered by the facts noted with the following list of meetings.

(December 28, 1967) EAC held a dinner at the New York Hilton at Sixth Avenue and 53rd Street in New York City. Dr. Sheldon spoke to 18 members attending; wives were not invited. The meeting convened at 8:00 PM and adjourned at 11:00.

(November 30, 1968, Saturday) The meeting was at the Hotel Americana on Seventh Avenue and 53rd Street in New York City. President Silberman made the arrangements. About 45 people attended. They received a large cent counterstamped “EAC 69.” Willard Blaisdell, Walter Breen, Jules Reiver and Dr. William Sheldon spoke briefly.

(August 15, 1969, Friday) Herb Silberman hosted a meeting in his room during the ANA convention in Philadelphia. At least 26 members and visitors representing 13 states attended. Silberman described it as, “the most exciting, mind-blowing happening that the large cent world has ever seen.”

(December 7, 1969) An all-day bourse and regional meeting occurred at the New York Hotel at Eighth Avenue and 34th Street. At 7:00 PM a business meeting was called with 17 in attendance.

(January 9, 1971, Saturday) The annual meeting was held in the Loire Suite of the Americana Hotel in New York City. It was attended by 31 members and 7 guests from 11 states.

(August 13, 1971, Friday) The ANA convention was in Washington, D.C. EAC met in Herb Silberman’s room with about 23 in attendance. Lillian Willins sold her 1801 VF25 S-217 cent to a buyer selected by lottery.

(December 30, 1971, Thursday) The meeting was held at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge near JFK in NYC. There were 34 members and guests from 7 states attending. President Herb

Silberman reported on the recent incorporation of EAC and the official name change to Early American Coppers, Inc. Silberman announced the first EAC "Man of the Year" award to Warren A. Lapp.

(August 15, 1972, Tuesday) About 50 attended an EAC meeting held during the ANA convention in New Orleans. Jules Reiver showed slides of 1794 cents and Jackson Storm exhibited cents of 1796.

(December 29, 1972, Friday) EAC met again at the Loire Suite of the Americana Hotel in New York City. President Silberman presented the 1972 "Man of the Year" award to John D. Wright. Silberman lamented that the meeting disintegrated into a selling brawl and promised that would never happen again.

(August 24, 1973, Friday) EAC met at the Sheraton Boston Hotel in conjunction with the ANA convention. There were 56 members and guests registered.

(March 2-3, 1974) EAC returned to the Americana Hotel in NYC for the first two-day meeting. Over 77 attended with 6 bourse dealers. Jackson Storm was general chairman.

(August 24, 1974, Wednesday) EAC met during the ANA convention in Miami with more than 40 present.

(February 15-16, 1975) The EAC convention was held again in NYC at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel. Jackson Storm returned as convention chairman. The registration fee of \$13 included the price of a luncheon. Attendance was about 200 from 17 states. There were 14 bourse dealers. On February 15, 1975, Pine Tree Auction Company, Inc. conducted an auction in association with the convention. Primary cataloger was Walter Breen. The sale included 320 of the 340 known varieties of Connecticut coppers. Most were plated. The catalog has become one of the standard references for collectors of the Connecticut series.

(August 20, 1975, Wednesday) EAC met in the Dallas room of the Los Angeles Marriott Hotel during the week of the ANA convention. About 100 attended.

(November 28, 1975, Friday) The first Half Cent Happening was hosted by Jon Lusk and Jim McGuigan. It was held in conjunction with the Michigan State Numismatic Society (MSNS) show and was not announced and promoted nationally. About seven enthusiasts attended.

(March 5-6, 1976) The annual EAC convention was at the New York Sheraton Hotel at Seventh Avenue and 56th Street. There was no admission charge and no luncheon. Registration showed 207 members and guests attending from 15 states. Again in 1976, Pine Tree conducted an auction in association with the EAC convention.

(August 25, 1976, Wednesday) EAC met during ANA in the Hotel Americana in NYC. About 65 members attended from 21 states.

(November 26, 1976, Friday) The second annual Half Cent Happening occurred in Ann Arbor, Michigan, at the home of Jon and Sally Lusk. The primary activity was a half cent whist match among seven competitors.

(March 4-6, 1977) The annual convention was at the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel. William R. T. Smith was chairman. About 51 members and guests attended from 19 states. There were 12 bourse tables. EAC conducted an independent sale for the first time. It realized \$15,969 for 395 lots.

(August 24, 1977, Wednesday) EAC met at the Atlanta Marriott Hotel in conjunction with the ANA convention. Around 65 members and guests from 22 states attended. The ANA auction conducted by Kagin's included a large selection of Large Cents. Cataloging of the cents was done by Denis Loring.

(November 25, 1977) The third annual Half Cent Happening was held during the MSNA convention at the home of Jon Lusk. The event attracted 13 members and guests. By 4:00 AM, participants were ready for a break. They were treated to a chocolate cake decorated to look like a 1796 no pole half cent.

(February 10-11, 1978) EAC had its annual meeting at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, California. Del Bland, Dane Nielsen and Jeff Oliphant were convention chairmen. The EAC Sale with 198 lots realized \$7,269.

(August 25, 1978, Friday) EAC met at ANA in Houston. There were 41 members and guests registered from 15 states.

(November 24-25, 1978) The fourth annual Half Cent Happening was hosted by Jon Lusk and Jim McGuigan.

(January 12-13, 1979) The convention was at Frank Wolfe's Beachside Motel in Cocoa Beach, Florida. Tom Morley was convention chairman. The EAC Sale realized \$33,400. About a year after the convention, a tornado heavily damaged the motel and it was torn down.

(July 29, 1979, Saturday) EAC met during the ANA convention in St. Louis with 62 attending.

(November 23, 1979, Friday) The fifth annual Half Cent Happening was held in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

(March 28-30, 1980) The convention was at the Ramada Inn in Rosslyn, VA, in the Washington, D.C. area. Joseph Kane was convention chairman. The bourse featured 12 dealers. About 70 members and 130 non-members registered. The EAC Sale had 318 lots with a gross of \$31,765. Steve Levy led interested members via subway to the Smithsonian for a tour of the numismatic exhibits. These included two examples of the Jefferson Head cent of 1795.

(August 19, 1980) EAC met during ANA at the convention center in Cincinnati, Ohio. Rod Burress hosted the EAC meeting. The meeting was delayed until after the copper section of the ANA auction. About 90 members and non-members attended. Jack Beymer displayed a new variety of 1795 cent he discovered. It shows the obverse of S-76 and S-77 with a new reverse. He asked the members to be careful handling it. As he said, "It's the only one I have."

(November 28, 1980, Friday) The sixth annual Half Cent Happening was held in Ann Arbor, Michigan at the home of Jon Lusk. Those attending included a dozen half cent collectors plus one well-known large cent collector and the EAC librarian.

(May 1-3, 1981) The convention was at the Northpark Inn, Dallas, Texas, at the same time as the Texas Numismatic Association convention. Stu Hodge and Ed Jasper were convention chairmen. About 80 members from 24 states attended. There were 143 registered guests for a total of 223 in attendance. The 417 lots in the EAC Sale realized more than \$36,000.

(July 3, 1981) An EAC meeting was held in conjunction with the ANA convention in New Orleans. ANA rescheduled the meeting for 8:00 AM. In spite of the early hour, 35 members and guests attended.

(March 12-14, 1982) The convention was at the Drawbridge Inn in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, in the Cincinnati, Ohio, area. Rod Burress and Phil Horner were convention chairmen. A sign outside the bourse directed people to the meeting of the Early American Coopers Club. There were 136 members from 28 states registered as well as 167 guests for a total of 303. The bourse featured 29 bourse dealers. The EAC Sale included 451 lots that grossed \$49,434. At the educational forum, John Wright described a new variety of 1835 cent having the obverse of N-7/17 and reverse of N-14.

(June 26, 1982, Saturday) A Half Cent Happening occurred in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, in association with the Garden State Numismatic Association show. Roger Cohen was principal speaker.

(August 18, 1982) EAC met during the ANA convention at the Sheraton Boston Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts. At the EAC meeting, Col. Bill Murray introduced himself as one who "Collects large cents by price." George Frederick Kolbe quipped that he "sells drugs to bock addicts." John Adams spoke to the Numismatic Bibliomania Society on his recent book about early auction sales. He also spoke at the EAC meeting about the sale of his collection of cents of 1794. About 100 EAC members and guests attended. Denis Loring won the ANA Howland Wood "Best of Show" award for his exhibit of large cents of 1794.

(September 25, 1982) A Half Cent Happening took place at Jim McGuigan's home in Pittsburgh. Jim and Roger Cohen faced off in a whist match observed by ten judges.

(May 6-8, 1983) The convention was at the La Guardia Sheraton Inn in East Elmhurst, Queens, N.Y. Frank Stillinger and Chuck Heck were convention chairmen. About 32 dealers offered coins at the bourse. There were 144 members and 57 guests from 25 states registered. The hotel

rescheduled the convention for one week later than originally announced and had a severe shortage of food service personnel. Jules Reiver videotaped members arriving for the educational forum. Dr. Lapp and Bill Parks were honored for their work with *P-W*. The EAC Sale had 536 lots and realized \$76,237.

(August 17, 1983, Wednesday) About 80 attended the EAC meeting at ANA in San Diego.

(March 30-April 1, 1984) The convention was at the Dunfey Hotel in San Mateo in the San Francisco, California, area. Bill Weber was convention chairman. This was the first convention to include an official reception on Thursday evening. There were planned tours and activities away from the convention for spouses. The EAC Sale grossed \$54,226 for 511 lots.

(July 29, 1984) EAC met at ANA at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs. It was announced that a new team of Breen, Bland, and Loring would collaborate on the early cent book revision.

(April 11-14, 1985) The convention was at the Ramada Inn O'Hare in Rosemont near Chicago, Illinois. The convention facility was being remodeled as we met. Don Valenziano was convention chairman. There were 259 members and guests registered. The EAC Sale set a record with total sales of \$105,856 for 703 lots.

(August 20, 1985, Tuesday) EAC met during the ANA convention in Baltimore. Reuben Harmon, coiner of Vermont coppers, was the featured speaker. His resurrection was arranged by Roy Bonjour. A total of 82 visitors from 25 states registered for the meeting.

(May 8-11, 1986) The EAC Convention returned to Washington, D.C. and the same hotel used for the 1980 convention. Now the building was called the West Park Inn. Joe Kane and Mike Packard were convention chairmen. This was the inaugural year for the "Half Cent Happening" to be held with the national meeting. Attendance was 220 registered members and guests. The EAC Sale realized more than \$54,000.

(August 8, 1986, Friday) EAC met during the ANA convention in Milwaukee. There were 63 people registered. The Grellman-Reiver book won the NLG Award as best book on U.S. coins. The "worst rain in Milwaukee's history" struck and the hotel couldn't provide hot water.

(March 19-22, 1987) The convention was at the Dallas Marriott Park Central Hotel. Ed Jasper and Stu Hodge were convention chairman. The EAC Award was presented to Bob Grellman and Jules Reiver for their *Attribution Guide for United States Large Cents 1840-1857*. The EAC Sale realized \$103,133. Registration showed attendance was 233.

(August 28, 1987) EAC met during the ANA Convention in Atlanta. Attendance was 79. Eric Newman spoke on the 1785 counterfeit British halfpence.

(April 14-17, 1988) The annual convention was at the Stouffers Concourse Hotel at the Los Angeles International Airport. Convention chairmen were Phil Ralls, Jeff Oliphant and Dan

Demeo. A fire alarm Saturday afternoon caused brief panic. Del Bland received the EAC Award. The EAC Sale realized \$65,337. Registration indicated attendance at 149.

(July 22, 1988) EAC met during the ANA Convention in Cincinnati. Attendance was estimated at 100. Jack Robinson spoke about his collection and its upcoming sale.

(April 13-16, 1989) EAC returned to the Drawbridge Inn in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky. Rod Burress and Paul Padgett were convention chairman. Registration showed 377 in attendance. The EAC Award went to Jack H. Robinson for CQR. Dan Holmes exhibited a complete set of varieties of middle date cents 1816-1839. The EAC Sale realized a record \$764,710, supported by a consignment of choice cents from Ted Naftzger.

(August 11, 1989, Friday) The EAC met at the ANA convention in Pittsburgh. Attendance was 71. An exhibit of large cents from the Clapp collection was presented at The Carnegie Museum of Natural History.

(May 10-13, 1990) The convention was at the Orlando Twin Towers Hotel and Convention Center in Florida. Bob and Cindy Grellman chaired the convention. The EAC Award was given to Roger S. Cohen who was unable to attend because of illness. He died about two weeks after the convention. The EAC Sale realized \$579,374 for 465 lots.

(August 24, 1990) EAC met at the ANA convention in Seattle, Washington. Attendance was 61.

(April 25-28, 1991) The annual convention was at the 57 Park Plaza Hotel in Boston. Peter Boisvert and Ronnie Adam were convention chairmen. No EAC Award or Editor's Award were given that year. For the first time, an audiotape was made of the Educational Forum. The EAC Sale realized \$148,410 but received criticism for lack of balance, no call for consignments and inadequate lot viewing.

(August 16, 1991) EAC met at the 100th anniversary ANA convention in Rosemont, Illinois. Attendance was 111. Eric Newman spoke to the group and requested return of 129 large cents substituted at the American Numismatic Society in New York. Donn Pearlman showed a sign marked PCGS and said it stood for "People Collecting Good Stuff." According to Loring, "This was the best ANA of them all."

(April 2-5, 1992) The EAC Convention was at the Clarion Hotel in St. Louis. Convention chairman was R. Tettenhorst. Observers called it the best EAC convention ever. On Friday, April 3, a reception was held at Eric Newman's Money Museum. Bill Noyes received the EAC Award for his book on early cents. Fewer than 150 lots were consigned to the EAC Sale. The cataloguer consigned the remaining 308 sale lots. The sale realized \$90,577 for 283 lots actually sold.

(August 14, 1992, Friday) EAC met at the ANA convention in Orlando, Florida. Attendance was 79. The Numismatic Literary Guild honored John Wright for *The CENT Book* as the best U.S. coin book of 1992. Loring reported the "informal survey of half a dozen major dealers reports that this is the worst ANA in at least twenty years."

(April 22-25, 1993) The 1993 convention had been planned for Philadelphia to coincide with the 200th Anniversary of the striking of the first coins. Suitable arrangements could not be made and the convention was rescheduled for the DFW Hilton Executive Conference Center in Grapevine, Texas. Stu Hodge put together the convention on short notice. The EAC Award went to Bill Noyes for his book on large cents 1816-1839. The EAC Sale realized \$31,177 for 157 lots.

(July 30, 1993) EAC met at ANA in Baltimore, Maryland. Attendance was 113. Eric Newman and an attorney for Ted Naftzger stated their positions on the 129 cents substituted at the ANS. In exhibit competition in the class of U.S. Coins, all three places went to exhibits of copper coins.

(April 21-24, 1994) The annual convention was at the Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas. Al Boka and Jeff Gresser were convention chairmen. The EAC Sale, under new management, had 598 lots from 71 consignors and realized \$392,886. The 1994 EAC Literary Award went to Dr. Phillip Mossman for *Money of the American Colonies*. An Award of Significant Merit was given to John Adams. A Large Cent Happening, patterned after the Half Cent Happening, was organized for the first time.

(July 30, 1994) EAC met at the ANA convention in Detroit with 69 in attendance.

(April 20-23, 1995) The EAC convention was at the Drawbridge Convention Center in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky. Rod Burress was the convention chairman. A new feature was the Colonial Happening patterned after Half Cent Happenings and Large Cent Happenings at previous conventions. A series of educational seminars was presented on Saturday. The EAC Sale had 62 consignors and realized \$207,896. The Literary Award Committee presented its Award of Significant Merit to John Wright for his accumulated body of work. The Editor's Award was presented to John Griffiee.

(August 8, 1995, Friday) EAC met at the ANA convention in Anaheim, California. Attendance was 68.

(May 2-5, 1996) The convention was at the Doubletree Inn in Philadelphia. Convention chairman were Don Valenziano and Ed Masuoka.. The EAC Literary Award went to Superior Stamp and Coin for the RSB2 catalog. There was no 1996 Editor's Award. The EAC Sale realized \$182,638 for 385 lots.

(August 16, 1996, Friday) EAC met during the ANA convention in Denver. Bill Weber showed slides of choice half cents photographed by Jack Collins who was in failing health.

(April 17-20, 1997) The convention was at the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Al Boka, Jeff Gresser and Wes Rasmussen were convention chairmen. There was no EAC Literary Award. The Editor's Award was presented to Ron Manley. The EAC Sale realized \$232,861 for 444 lots.

(August 1, 1997, Friday) EAC met at the ANA convention in New York City. About 50 people attended. Dr. Ernest Montgomery spoke about his collection and its sale by Heritage.

Symposia

Educational seminars related to early copper coinage have been held in recent years. Although these are not official EAC events, they are promoted and reported in *P-W*. EAC members are heavily involved in organizing and participating in these events.

(November 30-December 2, 1984) The American Numismatic Society (ANS) in New York City hosted the first "Coinage of the Americas" Conference. The topic was "America's Copper Coinage: 1783-1857." Several EAC members participated as speakers with many more in attendance.

(April 19-21, 1991) The New Jersey Copper Symposium was organized by John Lorenzo. The symposium in Wayne, New Jersey, attracted 18 attendees.

(July 11-16, 1992) The American Numismatic Association in Colorado Springs offered a course in "Early American Coppers" taught by Denis Loring, R. Tettenhorst and Ken Bressett.

(August 7, 1993, Saturday) The first EAC Grading Symposium was announced at the home of Bill Weber in Santa Rosa, California. No report was published in *P-W*.

(September 12, 1993) The second New Jersey Copper Symposium was held at the Northeast Expo in Parsippany, New Jersey. Attendance was 27. A revised census was published after the symposium.

(July 27, 1994, Wednesday) The first Early American Copper Symposium conducted with an ANA convention was held in Detroit. Greg Heim organized the symposium. Fifteen members and a dozen non-members attended. Speakers were John Wright and Bob Grellman.

(August 19, 1995, Saturday) The second annual EAC Educational Forum was held at Anaheim with the ANA Convention. The presentation was by Greg and Lisa Heim.

(October 20, 1995, Friday) The third New Jersey Copper Symposium was conducted with the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4) convention in Pensauken, New Jersey.

(August 16, 1996, Friday) The Third EAC Educational Forum was held at the ANA convention in Denver.

(October 11, 1996, Friday) A combination meeting called the Fourth New Jersey Copper Symposium, First Connecticut Copper Symposium, First Massachusetts Copper Symposium and First Vermont Copper Symposium were held with the C4 convention in Pennsauken, New Jersey.

(November 9, 1996, Saturday) The American Numismatic Society in New York City hosted the "Coinage of the Americas Conference" on America's Large Cent. All eight speakers were EAC members. More than 30 additional EAC members attended.

Officers

Officers are elected to three-year terms of office. Committee assignments run concurrently with the term of elected officers.

1967-1972 Elected by Affirmation

President:	Herbert A. Silberman	Maplewood, New Jersey
Vice President:	Robinson S. Brown, Jr.	Louisville, Kentucky
Secretary:	J. Robert Parsons	College Park, Georgia
Corresponding Secretary:	Warren A. Lapp, M.D.	Brooklyn, New York
Treasurer:	William J. Parks	Orlando, Florida

(May 15, 1968) In this issue of *P-W* was an announcement soliciting nominations and announcing an election of officers. In the July 15 issue it was announced that no nominations were received and the officers would remain unchanged.

(1970) William Parks resigned as Treasurer. Mrs. H.A. Elaine Silberman assumed the duties as acting treasurer.

1972 - 1977

President:	Herbert A. Silberman	Morristown, New Jersey
Vice President:	Robinson S. Brown, Jr.	Louisville, Kentucky
Secretary:	Denis Loring	Needham, Massachusetts
Corresponding Secretary:	Warren A. Lapp, M.D.	Brooklyn, New York
Treasurer:	John D. Wright	St. Joseph, Michigan

In 1974 an election was held that returned to office all the national officers.

1978 - 1981

President:	William R.T. Smith	Wilmette, Illinois
Vice President:	Darwin Palmer	Fort Sam Houston, Texas
Secretary:	Jeff Oliphant	Van Nuys, California
Treasurer:	John D. Wright	St. Joseph, Michigan

1981-1987

President:	Jeffrey Oliphant	Beverly Hills, California
Vice President/Membership:	Rod Burress	Cincinnati, Ohio
Secretary:	Denis Loring	New York, New York
Treasurer:	John D. Wright	St. Joseph, Michigan

1987 - 1990

President:	Stu Hodge	Garland, Texas
Vice President/Membership	Rod Burress	Cincinnati, Ohio
Secretary:	Denis Loring	New York, New York
Treasurer:	John D. Wright	St. Joseph, Michigan

1990 - 1993

President:	Phil Ralls	Los Angeles, California
Vice President:	Mike Packard	Fairfax, Virginia
Secretary:	Denis Loring	New York, New York
Treasurer:	John D. Wright	St. Joseph, Michigan

1993 - 1996

President:	Phil Ralls	Los Angeles, California
Vice President:	Wes Rasmussen	Las Vegas, Nevada
Secretary:	Denis Loring	New York, New York
Treasurer:	John D. Wright	St. Joseph, Michigan

1996 - 1999

President:	Wes Rasmussen	Las Vegas, Nevada
Vice President:	March Wells	Louisville, Kentucky
Secretary:	Denis Loring	New York, New York
Treasurer:	John D. Wright	St. Joseph, Michigan

The club has a number of appointed positions including Bourse Chairman, Comptroller, Editor of *Penny-Wise*, Historian, Librarian, Publisher of *Penny-Wise* and Sale Cataloguer. These positions are generally filled by volunteers and serve at the discretion of the President and Board.

From the beginning the typist and mimeographer for *Penny-Wise* was "Mama Mimeo." Her true identity is Mrs. Margaret Beeler of Winter Park, Florida. In 1974 the club made her an Honorary member of EAC.

(November 15, 1971) Dr. Lapp passed on material collected for the library to John Wright who took over the position of EAC Librarian. Later Mabel Ann Wright took over as EAC Librarian.

(1979) Pete Smith was appointed EAC Historian.

(March 15, 1986) Dr. Warren Lapp announced his retirement as Editor of *Penny-Wise*. Since 1967 he had published 113 issues including more than 5440 pages. Also retiring was Bill Parks who had coordinated the printing and distribution of *P-W* since 1967.

(May 1986) Dr. Harry Salyards of Hastings, Nebraska, was appointed Editor of *Penny-Wise* as a replacement for Dr. Lapp.

(July 15, 1986) Wes Rasmussen assumed the responsibilities of printing *Penny-Wise*. *P-W* was printed and distributed from Bloomington, Minnesota.

In 1990 the membership function was removed from Vice President and assigned to Rod Burress as an ongoing responsibility.

(1993) A number of appointed positions were in transition in 1993. Bill Noyes who had catalogued EAC Sales since 1980, resigned as the cataloguer. He was replaced by Tom Reynolds. Bill Weber resigned as bourse chairman. In later years, this responsibility has been taken over by Stu Hodge. James Holtz was appointed EAC Comptroller. Holtz died in 1995.

(1996) Chuck Heck was appointed EAC Comptroller.

(1997) Dale Anderson replaced Dan Demeo as on-site EAC Sale coordinator.

Research Projects

EAC members voluntarily conduct research projects in various areas related to Early American Coppers. The club provides no financial assistance but these activities are supported with promotion through *Penny-Wise*.

Mike Packard maintains an inventory of Massachusetts coppers. A 1985 survey was expanded in 1989 and is on-going.

John Griffie maintains the condition census of New Jersey coppers

Ed Masuoka maintains a listing of half cent collections. The survey appeared in *Penny-Wise* May 15, 1987.

John Fettinger maintains an inventory of collections of early date cents with assistance from Robert W. Meyer. Contributors receive copies of "The Score." The survey began in 1986.

John Wright maintains an inventory of collections of middle date cents. It is disseminated to contributors as "The List" A preliminary list was maintained by Wes Rasmussen. Wright began maintaining "The List" in 1984.

An inventory of collections of late date cents was maintained by John R. Frankenfield from 1987 to 1991. The list was disseminated to contributors as "Common Cents." Dan Argyro and Garry Apelian revived the project in 1996.

Roger Cohen recorded a listing of condition census half cents from before 1982 until his death in 1990.

Del Bland keeps a listing of condition census early cents. His efforts began before 1984.

John Wright maintains the middle date condition census. He began collecting the information in 1975.

Bob Grellman compiles the late date condition census. The survey began about 1986.

A photographic archive of significant half cents is maintained by Frank Wilkinson. The project began in 1987.

An archive of black and white photographs of middle date cents is maintained by John Wright. The file began in 1984.

Bill Noyes photographs important early and middle dates cents and maintains the files. The project was announced in *P-W* 1-15-89.

Collectors

(April 7, 1971) Floyd T. Starr, EAC #156 died. He was born December 8, 1904, in Wyncote, Pennsylvania. He served as vice president of Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company. Starr had purchased intact the late date collections of Howard Newcomb in 1945 and Henry C. Hines. These formed the nucleus for one of the best late date collections ever assembled.

(October 24, 1975) Eugene Exman, EAC #22 died at age 75. He was a large cent collector and personal friend of William Sheldon. As vice president at Harper & Rowe, he assisted Sheldon with publication of *Early American Cents* and *Penny Whimsy*.

(September 16, 1977) Dr. William Herbert Sheldon, EAC #1 died. He was born November 19, 1898, in Warwick, Rhode Island. Sheldon was the author in 1949 of *Early American Cents*. In 1958 he published a revision titled *Penny Whimsy* in collaboration with Walter Breen and Dorothy Paschal. This became the standard reference work for the early cent series. Sheldon is credited with development of the Sheldon grading system using a scale from 1 to 70 points. Although it was originally intended only for use with large cents, this grading scale has become standard for use in grading all series of U.S. coins. Sheldon identified "collectible" varieties of early cents 1793-1814 and assigned numbers S-1 thru S-295. Sheldon's first collection was sold to Charles Fisher in 1932. His second collection was sold by Stack's at auction October 15-22, 1938. With his third collection, he became the second person to assemble a complete collection of those 295 varieties. (George H. Clapp had all the varieties numbered by Sheldon and 324 of 327 known varieties including NC's (non-collectibles). His collection was donated to the ANS in 1937.)

(June 3, 1981) Dorothy Iselin Paschal, EAC #77 died. Born September 22, 1905, in New York City, she was an associate of Dr. Sheldon and assembled one of the ten best cent collections. She was a contributor to the 1958 edition of *Penny Whimsy*. Her collection of the Sheldon numbered varieties was complete. It was sold privately.

(October 17, 1983) Raymond H. Chatham, EAC #47 died. His collection was sold to Abe Kosoff in 1958. At the EAC convention in 1979, he left his valise with thousands of dollars in coins and apparently did not miss it until called three days later. Chatham handled the private sale of Dorothy Paschal's collection. He discovered the 1797 NC-6 in 1965. John Ashby sold Chatham's remaining coins in 1981.

(July 9, 1984) John S. Ashby, Jr., EAC #468 died. Ashby was born April 12, 1924, in Chicago. He was a dealer in copper coins and a strong promoter for EAC. Included with his monthly price lists was the encouragement to join EAC. Many customers took his advice. He is given much of the credit for our membership growth during this period.

(December, 1985) Willard Blaisdell, EAC #20 died. At early EAC meetings he was a one-man bourse. His collection was sold to Ted Naftzger in 1977 and dispersed through Del Bland.

(1988) Les Heilbronner, EAC #337 died in the Chicago airport while returning from the 1988 EAC Convention.

(May 26, 1990) Roger S. Cohen, Jr., EAC #188 died of leukemia two weeks after winning the annual EAC Award. He was buried with military honors in Arlington National Cemetery. Cohen was author of *American Half Cents - The Little Half Sisters*. He worked as a certified public accountant.

(June 23, 1991) Richard (Rick) Leonard, EAC #1985 died while flying his #22 Jersey Devil at an air show in Davenport, Iowa. He was primarily responsible for organizing and promoting the first "Half Cent Happening."

(January 3, 1992) James G. Johnson, EAC #9 died at age 82. He was the editor of "Collector's Clearinghouse" in *Coin World* and an active EAC member.

(1992) Milton B. Pfeffer, EAC #6 died. Born November 24, 1919, in New York City, he was a partner in the law firm of Gwertman and Pfeffer. He handled incorporation and served as legal counsel to the club from 1972 until his death.

(April 28, 1993) Walter Breen, EAC #3, died in Chino, California. His date of birth is uncertain but possibly September 5, 1930. Breen catalogued sales for New Netherlands and First Coinvestors, Inc. He wrote "The Cent Collector's Forum" published in *The Numismatist* January 1957 through March 1958. The column included new discoveries and updates to the standard references. Breen discovered the 1794 NC-6 in 1957.

(May 20, 1993) Dr. Warren A. Lapp, EAC #33 died at home in Charlotte, North Carolina. He was born April 5, 1915, in Chicago Heights, Illinois. Lapp practiced as an obstetrician and gynecologist. He served as an Army doctor during World War II and attended the dying General George S. Patton. Lapp originated the club journal *Penny-Wise* and served as editor for 113 issues until 1986. Lapp's wife Katie died in June 1993.

(June 22, 1993) George E. Ewing, Jr., EAC #150 died. He was one of the organizers of the 1984 ANS Coinage of the Americas Conference. He wrote the text for "Die Varieties of the 1794 Large Cent" issued for the conference. He taught at Eastfield College in Mesquite, Texas.

(July 9, 1993) Charles E. Funk, Jr., EAC #59 died. He compiled the annual index for *Penny-Wise* for the first 20 years. Funk worked as Connecticut state librarian 1975 to 1979. His collection of middle date cents was consigned to the 1985 EAC Sale.

(1994) Alan Corson, EAC #45 died. He organized EAC gatherings in south Florida during 1969-1975 and contributed "Corson's Corner" to *P-W*. John Wright called Corson "The only large cent collector I've met who can wear his collection on a string around his neck."

(1995) Jim Holtz, EAC #3547 died in a motorcycle accident. He served as EAC Comptroller 1992 to 1995.

(September 13, 1995) William J. Parks, EAC #32 died. He served as club treasurer from 1967 to 1970. He published and distributed *Penny-Wise* from 1967 until he resigned in 1986.

(July 19, 1996) Bob Lomphey, Sr., EAC #1845 died. He was born August 18, 1917. Lomphey loved the cents of 1853 and headed three generations of EAC members.

(September 27, 1996) Jack Collins, EAC #115 died in South Gate, California. Collins was primary cataloguer for the Robinson Brown collection sale and photographer for the Van Cleave sale. He consigned large cents to Bowers and Ruddy's Fairfield sale of October 6-8, 1977, and late date cents to B&R's sale of January 25-27, 1983.

Collections

The story of EAC includes much more than just club activities. The assembly and disbursement of major collections becomes a part of EAC history. The sale of major collections attracts many of our members and generates considerable discussion in *P-W*.

(April 19, 1972) The collection of Dr. William Sheldon including all numbered early cent varieties and 30 NC-s was sold intact to Ted Naftzger. Duplicates following the merger were sold by New Netherlands November 14, 1973.

(February 11-13, 1974) Superior conducted part I of the Charles Ruby sale including many choice early cents. Ruby was a native of Indiana and Professor of Law at Cal-Fullerton. Cataloguing was by Walter Breen and Denis Loring. The collection included strong early cents with duplicates of many rarities. This was one of few times when EAC observers commented on the conservative grading standards used. This provided an opportunity for many coins to be re-offered shortly thereafter at inflated grades and prices. No coins awarded to mail bidders were returned. Additional copper coins were offered in Part III of the sale February, 10-12, 1975.

(1974) Denis Loring assembled a collection of early cents including all Sheldon numbered varieties and 25 NC-s. The collection was sold intact to Bob Shalowitz who dispersed it.

(November 28-29, 1979) Bowers and Ruddy conducted part I of the Garrett collection sale for Johns Hopkins University. On Wednesday, November 28, 51 lots of high grade half cents and 156 lots of exceptional large cents were offered. On Thursday, November 29, another 70 lots of choice colonial coins were offered. The Brasher Doubloon (Lot 607) got the publicity and the big bucks at \$725,000. The timing of the sale found collectors and investors willing to establish record prices. Tom Morley received national publicity when his taxi drove away with several 1794 cents he had acquired at the auction. A media campaign to find the driver was successful and the coins were returned.

(March 26-27, 1980) Part II of the Garrett sale saw about 100 lots of Hard Times tokens offered. These also established record prices that set off a short period of increased interest in this series among the numismatic community. Prices soon dropped sharply to return to more rational levels.

(October 1-2, 1980) Part III of the Garrett sale included 345 more lots of choice colonial and state coinage.

(1982) John Adams assembled a high grade set of 1794 cents notable for the pedigrees from important collections. He consigned this collection to Bowers and Ruddy for sale at fixed prices. The sale catalog was offered softbound and in a limited hardbound edition. The hardbound edition has become a collector's item.

(1982) Denis Loring's collection of 1794 cents, exhibited at the ANA Convention, won the Howland Wood "Best of Show" award. The collection was sold intact to Jack Robinson.

(June 13-14, 1984) Stack's auctioned part I of the Floyd Starr collection. Dubbed "Starr Wars." The collection commanded considerable interest among large cent collectors. Highlights included the unique Strawberry leaf cent of 1793 (NC-2) and one of three known examples of NC-3. C. Douglas Smith was the primary cataloguer. He was assisted by Denis Loring and Jules Reiver. The collection had been built from the Hines and Newcomb late date collections.

(February 1, 1986) Kagin's sold the Phil Van Cleave Collection. Cataloguing was by Del Bland. Up to this time it was the most complete collection of Sheldon varieties offered at public auction. The Van Cleave collection did not include an S-79 or S-80 because he felt they were not part of the U. S. Mint series. A biography of Van Cleave, written by Darwin Palmer, was in the 7-15-85 issue of *P-W*. Van Cleave, an employee of the National Parks Service, died August 1, 1991.

(September 30-October 1, 1986) Superior sold the Robinson S. Brown collection of large cents, later called "The greatest large cent sale that ever was." Sale was catalogued by Jack Collins. "Robbie" Brown had been the first vice president of EAC. His collection represented the most complete series of large cents sold at public auction. All Sheldon varieties were represented as well as 29 of the non-collectibles. All the Newcomb varieties of 1816-1839 were included. The late dates were almost complete. Phil Ralls had an open house before the sale. Larry Goldberg

hosted a reception at his recently remodeled house in Bel Air. Jack H. Robinson bought the S-79 to become the seventh collector to complete the Sheldon number collection.

(March 26, 1987) Bowers and Merena conducted the Frederick B. Taylor sale. It was a landmark sale for colonial coins.

(March 16, 1988) The Herman Halpern collection of large cents was sold by Stack's. Halpern owned McGlades New Pub in New York City. Cataloguing was by Carl Carlson. Called "The Hall of Fame of U.S. Large Cents," it had been assembled from the Bareford collection, Bland's 1794's, Norman Stack's 1794's, Loring's middle dates and Doug Smith's 1816's, 17's, 36's and 37's. The 774 cents realized nearly \$2 million.

(September 9, 1988) The Herbert M. Oeschner sale included half cents, large cents, Hard Times Tokens and colonials. The colonials were the strongest group.

(January 29-30, 1989) The Jack S. Robinson collection sale of half cents and large cents was sold by Superior. The collection included all numbered Sheldon varieties. Many varieties were represented with multiple die states. Jack wrote much of the catalog with assistance from Del Bland. Phil Ralls hosted an open house on January 27 before the sale. Mark Goldberg hosted a reception January 28 at the Marina Del Ray Yacht Club on the Pacific. The S-79 passed to G. Lee Kuntz who became the eighth person to complete the Sheldon number series. The five living members of that elite group attended the sale: Brown, Kuntz, Loring, Naftzger and Robinson. J.R. Frankenfield who would inherit the legacy as #9 also attended the sale.

(1989) Dan Holmes completed the series of cent varieties of 1816-1839 becoming the only complete set of known varieties.

(May 28, 1989) Superior sold the Robert E. Matthews collection. Cataloguing was by Del Bland.

(November 2, 1989) The Joseph Rose collection of large cents was sold by Harmer Rooke in New York City. Rose was one of the principals with Harmer Rooke.

(January 28, 1990) Superior sold the collection of Dr. Thomas Chalkley. The collection was noted for strong late date cents.

(June 1, 1990) George F. Kolbe sold "Selections from the John W. Adams Library." The sale included classic works on U.S. large cents and much correspondence by persons important in the history of the hobby.

(February 3, 1991) Superior sold the Dennis Mendelson sale of large cents. Cataloguing was by Del Bland. The strength of the collection was in VF-XF middle date cents and die states.

(October 6, 1991) The G. Lee Kuntz collection appeared at auction by Superior. The usual reception was hosted by Superior October 5. J. R. Frankenfield bought the S-79 to become the 9th collector to complete the Sheldon number collection.

(January 26-27, 1992) The Roger Cohen collection appeared in a Superior auction. Superior hosted a Super Bowl party and barbecue prior to the sale. The collection included every half cent variety and sub-variety known. It also included multiple examples, die states and errors.

(January 27, 1992) Superior sold the John J. Nicholas, Jr. collection as part of "The Century Collection Sale." The collection was strong on high grade middle date cents including a pair of 1834 N-7 cents. The Nicholas consignment was submitted to PCGS for grading without encapsulation. Del Bland graded the consignment based on "EAC" grading. It gave a unique opportunity to study the two grading standards.

(March 1992) The Ted Naftzger collection of half cents, early date cents and 56 proofs was sold to 21 year-old Eric Streiner. Streiner had 102 pieces encapsulated by PCGS. More than 100 pieces were sold to dealer Jay Parrino. Streiner attributed Naftzger's decision to sell to the controversy over Clapp coins substituted at the ANS.

(May 31-June 2, 1992) The Tom Morley collection was sold by Superior.

(October 1-4, 1992) The Dennis Mendelson Library was sold by George F. Kolbe. The sale featured "all the classic works on large cents." Many were deluxe editions and many were in high states of preservation.

(July 30, 1994) The Walter Dudgeon collection of middle date and late date cents was sold by McCawley-Grellman Auctions.

(August 19, 1995) The Gary Ruttenberg collection of late date cents was sold by McCawley-Grellman Auctions.

(January 27, 1996) Superior held the Robbie Brown II sale. Cataloguing was by Del Bland. The sale included 347 of 354 known early cent varieties. Middle date cent varieties were complete.

(April 1996) A group of 4600 large cents was sold to Robert Miller who quickly resold them to Steven Ellsworth. The group has become known as the "Butternut Hoard." It offered a unique opportunity for study.

(May 4, 1996) At the EAC Sale, Wes Rasmussen acquired lot 261, an 1834 N-7, to complete his collection of middle date cents.

(November 14, 1996) Jack Wadlington bought an 1822 N-14 cent and completed his collection of middle date cent varieties.

(September 8-10, 1997) The Dr. William J. Carmel Jr. collection of early date large cents and Robert Vail collection of middle and late date cents was sold by Superior.

(September 12-13, 1997) The Richard V. Punchard library was sold by Remy Bourne.

Penny-Wise

For thirty years, *Penny-Wise* has been the journal of the Early American Coppers Club. A typical issue has its table of contents and a directory of club officers followed by a one-page "Introduction by the Editor." The journal publishes minutes of club meetings and reports from club officers. Regional meetings are announced and reported. Discoveries of new varieties and of new examples of rare varieties are reported. Letters to the Editor include commentary on member activities and reaction to events and previously published articles. Each issue has a section for "Swaps and Sales" where members may solicit an orderly succession of ownership.

Articles featured in *Penny-Wise* cover the field of early copper. Some are scholarly and lengthy and may become the standard reference for a topic. Others may be short or light-hearted. The following list covers some of "The Best of *Penny-Wise*."

John W. Adams contributed several articles on early collectors including "The American Numismatic Society and Mr. Clapp" (5-15-73); "Thomas Harrison Garrett 1849-1888" (5-15-74); "Early Auction Catalogues" (11-15-77); "The Hall-Brand Saga" (9-15-78); "Rarity and Value of Large Cent Literature" (3-15-79) and "The Henry Hines Collection" (11-15-79).

Dan Argyro contributed "Major Die States of the Year 1848" in eight parts 5-15-93 to 3-15-95.

John S. Ashby, Jr. contributed his series "Looking at Large Cent Errors" in fourteen parts 1-15-82 to 5-15-84.

Mark Auerbach offered "On the Trail of Dr. Maris" in the 3-15-89 issue. It tells of the discovery of a photo of Maris.

Roy Bonjour wrote "The Republic of Vermont - From Landscape to Bust!" (7-15-84)

Walter Breen was a contributing editor of *P-W* and submitted "Walter Mould and the Morristown Mint" (7-15-77). Breen's autobiography in the January 15, 1978, issue is one of the best sources of information on Breen.

Breen and editor Lapp collaborated on "Old Time Collectors and Dealers" (7-15-69).

Rod Burress wrote "The Use of Sulfur Ointment in Recoloring a Copper Coin" (3-15-84).

George E. Ewing, Jr. wrote "Edge Devices" (9-15-81) and "Coining Early Copper Coinage" (5-15-82).

David M. Gale submitted "Patinas I Have Known" for the 9-15-82 issue. It offered a description of the chemistry involved with toning.

John Griffie had a long running series "New Jersey Coppers" in 35 parts between 9-15-90 and 11-15-96. This series received the Editor's Award for 1995.

Bob Grellman is a regular contributor of his series "Late Date Cent Update" that began in 1986 and continues. He reports on changes since publication of his book.

Ron Guth wrote "Vermont Coppers - A Real Challenge." (3-15-88)

Fred Iskra made several contributions with "S-276 Die States and Rotations" (5-15-92); "Die States of 1807 Sheldon 271" (3-15-93); "S-274 and S-275 Die States" (3-15-94) and "S273 Die States" (1-15-95). The 1993 Editor's Award went to Fred Iskra for his articles on die states of 1807 varieties.

William T. Jones contributed "A Historical Look at Hard Times Tokens" in three parts 5-15-81, 9-15-81, 11-15-81 and returned to the topic with "A Historical View of the Hard Times Tokens" beginning in the issue of September 15, 1989. "A Half Cent Condition Census for the Intermediate Collector" in four parts 11-15-86 to 5-15-87)

Editor Warren A Lapp contributed some unsigned articles plus "The Yellow Fever Epidemics in Philadelphia" (5-15-68); "Suggestions For the Library of the Large Cent Collector" (5-15-68); "A Description of the First U.S. Mint" (9-15-68); "The Directors of the Mint During the Period of Large Cent Production" (three parts 9-15-68, 1-15-69, 3-15-69); "Howard R. Newcomb - A Biography" (11-5-68); "The Chapman Brothers" (3-15-69); "More on Old-Time Collectors and Dealers" (3-15-70); "Joseph Wright, The Mint's First Die Sinker" (3-15-71) and "The Talbot, Allum & Lee Tokens" (9-15-75).

Denis Loring contributed a series intended as an update for Sheldon's book "The Early Cent Revision" in twelve parts 3-15-73 to 3-15-75 followed by "The Early Cent Revision, Update" in eleven parts 1-15-79 to 1-15-81; and "United States Proof Large Cents" (11-15-91 to 1-15-92)

Tom Madigan contributed "Die States of New Jersey Coppers" in three parts 9-15-94 to 1-15-95.

Ron Manley received the 1997 Editor's Award for his articles on U.S. Half Cents. These included "1800 LIBEKTY Half Cent" (9-15-94); "Is There a Missing Half Cent Variety?" (3-15-95); "Rarity Estimates of 1794 Half Cents and Their Relationship to Lettered Edge Planchet Styles" (5-15-95); "Exploring the Possibility of 1794 C-7, C-8 and C-9 Half Cents With Large Edge Lettering" (9-15-95); "A Bicentennial Salute to 1796 Half Cents" (3-15-96); "A Case For Proof-Only 1831 Original Half Cents" (5-15-96); "A Follow-up on 1796 and 1831 Half Cents" (7-15-96); "The Reverse Die States of the 1804 B-5, C-7, G-9 Spiked Chin Half Cent" (11-15-96); and "Another Turn at Half Cent Rotations" (1-15-97).

Michael McLaughlin began with "The Fugio Cent: Die Varieties, & Preliminary Census;" continued with "The Fugio File" and concluded with "Fugio File Updates" in twelve parts 7-15-88 to 7-15-94.

Jeffrey Oliphant wrote "Symbols on Large Cents" (9-15-71) and "Large Cent Errors, Defects and Other Irregularities" (5-15-75).

Milton Pfeffer had a long series "Catalogue sales of the Circulating Half Cents" (1-15-74 to 1-15-78)

Harry J. Rescigno wrote "Vermont Auctoru - Some Basic Work" (11-15-81) and "Connecticuts - Where to Begin" (3-15-83).

Tom Reynolds contributed "Examining the Rarity Ratings" in fourteen parts 1-15-89 to 7-15-91. Reynolds has kept a record of every half cent and cent in his collection and dealer inventory over the past 20 years and compared his observation of occurrences with the assumed rarities of those pieces.

Jeff Rock submitted "Books on Copper Worth Their Weight in Gold" in two parts 5-15-85 and 7-15-85. It was reprinted in *The Asylum*, journal for the Numismatic Bibliomania Society.

Jim Roecker contributed "Middle Date Die States" in three parts 7-15-91 to 11-15-91.

William H. Sheldon, M.D.. submitted "'The Big Four' of the Old Copper Cents" (3-15-71).

Herb Silberman is a contributing editor of *P-W* and contributed "Gleanings of the Morristown Mint" (1-15-77).

C. Douglas Smith contributed "How I Got My AU55 Starred Reverse, My MS70 S-217, and Sundry Others of Similar Desirability" (7-15-72). He told the remarkable story of his relationship with a rabbit named "Weirdo."

Pete Smith contributed "Names With Notes" (9-15-90 to 1-15-92). These were short biographies of people important to the study and collection of large cents. The series was later published as a monograph.

William R.T. Smith contributed his irregular column "Cents and Nonsense" where he offered commentary on the market and its abuses.

Colonial coin specialist Gary A. Trudgen wrote "Machin's Mills Halfpence - An Overview" (3-15-85); "Make Your Early American Coppers Come Alive" (5-15-85) and "James Atlee's Halfpence" (11-15-88)

Bill Weber wrote "A Forgotten Half Cent Patron, Commodore W.C. Eaton" (1-15-85).

Howard W. Whitaker, M.D.. offered "The Toxicology of Xylene" (7-15-78) and "On Cleaning Large Cents" (9-15-78).

Raymond H. Williamson wrote "Copper For Early American Cents" (3-15-84).

Thomas P. Wolf submitted “Aluminum Foil Pressings That Really Work” (9-15-70). He described a way to copy coins in foil for reference.

John Wright has contributed his “Ask John” column irregularly since 1-15-81. His “Study of Overdated U.S. Large Cents” in seven parts 1-15-68 to 1-15-69 was reprinted in *The Numismatist*. He submitted “A Survey of Large Cent Auctions” in seven parts 5-15-71 to 11-15-72; “The Phrygian Cap, The Pileus and the Liberty Cap” (9-15-71). He presented his study of middle date cents year by year 1816-1839 from 1-15-75 thru 5-15-79.

Publications

Members of EAC have been active in research and in the publication of references related to the hobby. Some publications include material offered for discussion and review in *Penny-Wise*.

(December 1971) *American Half Cents the “Little Half Sisters”* by Roger S. Cohen, Jr. was published.

(1977) *United States Large Cents 1793-1857* edited by Warren A. Lapp and Herbert Silberman was published. It contained over 100 articles previously published in *The Numismatist*.

(1977) *Monographs on Varieties of United States Large Cents 1793-1794* edited by John W. Adams and *Monographs on Varieties of United States Large Cents 1795-1803* edited by Denis Loring were published.

(1977) Alan Kessler published *The Fugio Cents* .

(1979) Tom Morley published *1794 Large Cents Graded and Upgraded*.

(June 1980) Russell Rulau produced a revision of Lyman Low’s book on *Hard Times Tokens*. A second edition was published in June 1981.

(1980) Jules Reiver published “Mature Head United States Copper Cents 1843-1857.” This was a precursor to the 1986 book by Reiver and Bob Grellman.

(1982) Roger Cohen released his second edition of *American Half Cents*.

(April 1983) EAC produced a 28 page booklet titled *An Introduction to the World of Early American Copper Coinage*. This booklet is sent to new members as an introduction to the hobby and the club.

Copper Quotes by Robinson (CQR) has become the standard reference for pricing half cents and large cents. Jack H. Robinson formalized acknowledgment that coins may be choice, average or scudzy. The first edition of CQR was dated 12/31/83. The 15th edition was released in 1997.

(July 1984) David Bowers published *United States Copper Coins, An Action Guide for the Collector and Investor*.

(August 1984) *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States Half Cents 1793-1857* was released. This book received the Numismatic Literary Guild award as the best book for 1984-85.

(1986) J. R. (Bob) Grellman and Jules Reiver published *Attribution Guide for United States Large Cents 1840-1857*. Volume I covered the years 1840-1848 while volume II covered 1849-1857. This was recognized by the Numismatic Literary Guild as the best new book on American numismatics for 1985-86.

(July 1, 1986) Pete Smith published *The Story of the Starred Reverse Cent*. It was about the 1794 Sheldon S-48 large cent variety.

(1987) The "Quickfinder Supplement" to the Grellman / Reiver book appeared.

(1990) Barry Murphy published "Attribution Guide: Early Date Large Cents and Half Cents."

(July 1991) William C. Noyes released *United States Large Cents 1793-1814* and *United States Large Cents 1816-1839*. For this effort, Bill received the 1993 EAC Literary Award.

(1991) William Anton and Bruce Kesse. published *The Forgotten Coins of the North American Colonies*. This covers "A modern survey of early English and Irish counterfeit copies circulating in America."

(1992) John D. Wright published *The CENT Book* covering cents of 1816-1839. The book won the NLG Award for best U.S. coin book in 1992.

(1995) Bill Noyes published his *Encyclopedia of Large Cents, Volume I, Sheldon 1 to 1796 Sheldon 91*. It is intended as a companion to his book on early date cents.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to Steve Fischer for the front cover design.

Thanks to *Coin World* for permission to reprint the November 6, 1966, ad appearing on page 32. The copy was provided by Remy Bourne for the 1986 History of EAC.

Photos of Packard, Noyes and Salyards, and Smith and Kuntz on page 27 are by Tony Carlotto. All other photos on pages 27-29 are by the author.

Thanks to Denis Loring, Wes Rasmussen, Harry Salyards and John D. Wright who reviewed a draft of the EAC History and offered valuable comments and corrections.



Mike Packard stamping pocket pieces (1992)



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John Wright (1982)

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